

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A driving device for an image carrying member for rotationally driving the image carrying member by transmitting a rotational driving force of a driving power source to the image carrying member comprising:

at least one driving force transmitting member arranged in a driving force transmission path for transmitting the driving force to the image carrying member; and

~~a rotating member for rotating in contact with at least one of a driving force transmitting member and the image carrying member, which are arranged in a driving force transmission path for transmitting the driving force to the image carrying member,~~

~~the~~ a rotating member for rotating in contact with one of the driving force transmitting member ~~or~~ and the image carrying member, and providing, upon occurring fluctuation in velocity of one of the driving force transmitting member ~~or~~ and the image carrying member, a viscous effect that suppresses the fluctuation in velocity.

Claim 2 (Original): A driving device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the rotating member providing the viscous effect comprises a rotating member rotationally driven at the substantially same velocity as the driving force transmitting member or the image carrying member.

Original 3 (Original): A driving device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the rotating member is rotationally driven with the same driving power source as that driving the image carrying member.

Claim 4 (Original): A driving device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the rotating member is rotationally driven with a different driving power source from that driving the image carrying member.

Claim 5 (Original): A driving device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the rotating member providing the viscous effect is rotationally driven at a velocity with a difference in peripheral velocity of 1% or less from the driving force transmitting member or the image carrying member.

Claim 6 (Original): A driving device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the rotating member providing the viscous effect is driven by the driving force transmitting member or the image carrying member and comprises a driven roll with a viscous damper operated by connecting thereto.

Claim 7 (Original): A driving device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the image carrying member comprises an endless belt member.

Claim 8 (Original): A driving device as claimed in claim 7, wherein the rotating member providing the viscous effect is made in contact with an inner surface of the belt member.

Claim 9 (Original): A driving device as claimed in claim 7, wherein the rotating member providing the viscous effect is made in contact with an outer surface of the belt member.

Claim 10 (Original): A driving device as claimed in claim 7, wherein the rotating member providing the viscous effect is provided with a pressing member at a position opposite thereto with respect to the belt member.

Claim 11 (Original): A driving device as claimed in claim 7, wherein the rotating member providing the viscous effect is positioned in vicinity of a driving roll for driving the belt member.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): A driving device as claimed in claim 11, wherein the rotating member providing the viscous effect is positioned ~~on a~~ downstream of the driving roll for driving the belt member and ~~on an~~ upstream of a load system.

Claim 13 (Original): A driving device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the image carrying member comprises a photoreceptor drum.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): A driving device as claimed in claim 13, wherein the photoreceptor drum is made ~~in contact with~~ to contact a rotating member rotationally driven at ~~the substantially~~ substantially the same velocity as the photoreceptor drum, and the rotating member also functions as a charging roll, a developing roll or a cleaning roll.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): A driving device as claimed in claim 13, wherein the photoreceptor drum is made ~~in contact~~ to contact with a belt member cyclically driven at ~~the~~ substantially substantially the same velocity as the photoreceptor drum.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): A driving device as claimed in claim 13, wherein the driving force transmitting member for transmitting a driving force from a driving power source to the photoreceptor drum is made ~~in contact~~ to contact with a rotating member rotationally driven at ~~the substantially~~ substantially the same velocity as the photoreceptor drum.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): An image forming apparatus comprising:

a an endless member supporting system comprising a an endless member for carrying an image or a medium having an image formed thereon; and

a vibration model comprising a driving system comprising a driving unit for rotating the endless member;

the endless member supporting system having a resonance point in the range outside of from 10 to 100 Hz.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): An image forming apparatus comprising:

a an endless member for carrying an image or a medium having an image formed thereon;

a first driving unit for rotating the endless member; and

a second driving unit connected to the endless member and applying a driving force with ~~the substantially~~ substantially the same rotation number as the first driving unit.

Claim 19 (Original): An image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 18, wherein the first driving unit and the second driving unit receive a driving force from the same motor.